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Snowy smiles

Violet Orsan-Good and Charlotte Gage enjoy skiing with pinwheels during the first day of the Jack Rabbit Nordic skiing program held at Glebe Park on Saturday, Jan. 6, and thanks to a fresh snowfall the day before, the eight-week program was able to take place on skis. Jack Rabbits is for children ages four to 14 and consists of seven levels to help them improve their Nordic skiing skills. See more photos on page 2. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

First baby in Canada welcomed by local family

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Staff Reporter

What started as a standard New Year's Eve for Haliburton County local Nadia Shivji, turned into an evening she will never forget.

Shivji and her husband, Jake Martell, currently reside in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The couple met when Shivji moved to the East Coast to pursue her law degree at Dalhousie University, and fell in love with the small-town feel of the maritime city. "It's a lot like Haliburton," said Shivji. "I love how you go to the grocery store, and bump into people you know all the time."

Shivji works for the Dalhousie legal aid services, and at the beginning of the month, was winding down her work as she prepared for her first child, scheduled to be born on Jan. 29, 2024.

see A WELCOME on page 4

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Getting in the rabbit habit

Hazel Orsan-Good watches her pinwheel spin during her Jack Rabbit group lesson on Saturday, Jan. 6. This year, the program has 83 children registered and is run by 30 volunteers. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Hadley and June Judson push with their poles during a Jack Rabbit exercise.

Ruby Mansfield concentrates on her stride.

Joleen Thomas, right, leads her group in some warm up circles at Glebe Park in Haliburton on Saturday.

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Ombudsman raps county's knuckles for closed meeting

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County council would have done better to have an open, public meeting about the Minden Hills emergency department closure rather than a closed session.

Paul Dube, Ontario's ombudsman, looked into the circumstances surrounding the April 2023 meeting of county council with Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) officials behind locked doors.

But Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, took exception with the ombudsman's December 2023 report into public complaints about council's closed meeting.

HHHS announced its decision in April 2023 to permanently close the Minden Hills emergency room as of June 2023.

"The announcement was met with surprise, fear, and resistance from community members," Dube wrote in his report into the complaint. "Many contacted their local councillors to complain about the decision and its imminent effect on the safety and well-being of residents."

County council met with Carolyn Plummer, then president and CEO at HHHS, and David O'Brien, the health service's board of directors' chairperson, to get more information and to attempt to reverse or delay the closure.

"We were told that an in-camera discussion was planned because the county hoped that the HHHS representatives would be more willing to have a full and frank discussion with council in closed session than in public," Dube wrote.

Council cited matters permissible under the Municipal Act's Sections 239 (2)(g) and 239 (2)(i) when it moved into closed session to discuss the emergency room closure. The exception council used has limited application because very few pieces of legislation contain exceptions that allow a municipality to hold closed meetings, the ombudsman wrote.

"Members of council and staff we spoke to could not explain why this exception had been cited," Dube wrote. "The clerk shared that the county may have assumed that legislation exists that permits the HHHS board to hold closed meetings, which also applied to council. However, the county could not cite the legislation that it believed permitted the closed meeting."

Section 239(2)(g) allows a municipality to discuss a matter in respect of which a council, board, committee, or other body may hold a closed meeting under another Act in closed session.

Section 239(2)(i) contains the exception for information supplied in confidence to the municipality by a third party.

County council continued its closed session after the HHHS officials had left the meeting.

After returning to open session, council adjourned the meeting.

Dube determined that county council was not permitted to discuss the ER closure while in camera under the cited exceptions in the Municipal Act for matters under another Act or information supplied in confidence by a third party.

However, Dube determined that a portion of the discussion did fit within the exception for advice subject to solicitor-client privilege as county council discussed possible legal action against the health facility's closure.

"The fact that the closure was imminent added to council's desire to act quickly," he wrote. "However, the open meeting rules continue to apply, even in times of crisis.

"The open meeting requirements set out in s. 239 of the Municipal Act permit the public to observe the political process. I encourage the county to continue to strive to carry out their business in as transparent and open a manner as possible during all council meetings."

The ombudsman made four recommendations to Haliburton County as a result of his investigation.

Dube said all members of council should be vigilant in adhering to their individual and collective obligation to ensure that the county complies with its responsibilities under the Municipal Act, 2001.

He said that council should ensure that no subject is discussed in closed session unless it clearly comes within one of the statutory exceptions to the open meeting requirements. As a best practice, Dube wrote, when county council relies on the exception in section 239(2)(g) to close a meeting to the public, the resolution to move into closed session should include the relevant legislation and provision that permits the meeting to be closed.

Finally, Dube said that when relying on the section in section 239(2)(i) to discuss information supplied in confidence by a third party in a closed meeting, council should adopt the best practice of consulting the third party in advance to ensure that all elements of the exception are met.

Carter said during county council's regular public meeting Dec. 13 that he didn't want to criticize the ombudsman or his report. But he said it's important to note that it took "a team of lawyers from the ombudsman office more than four months of investigating to find that we technically didn't follow one of their rules when we had approximately two days in the midst of a crisis to put together the meeting."

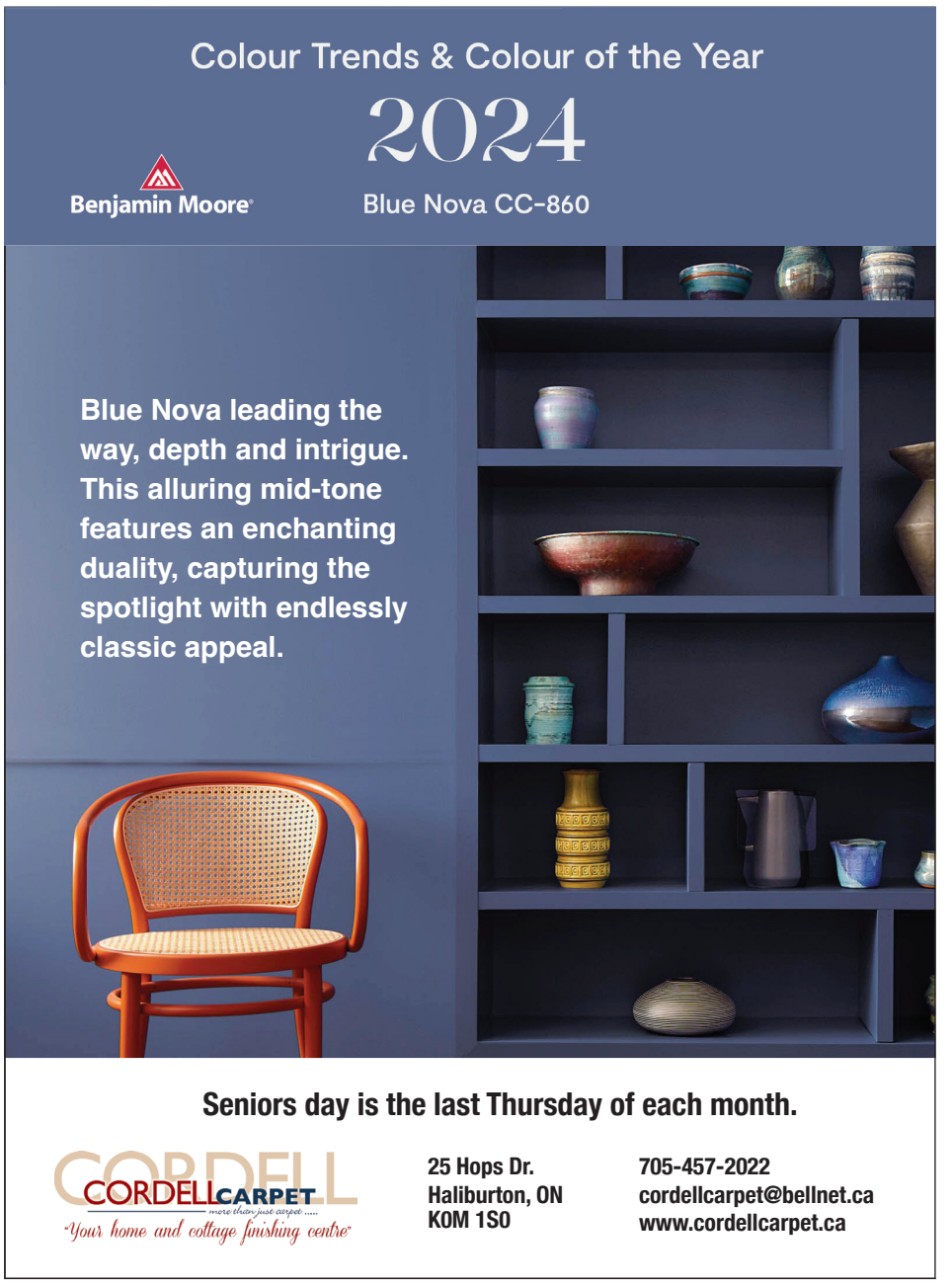
He said county council had to quickly parse the Municipal Act to determine which parts of the closed meeting exemptions applied to the situation.

"There's an old joke," he said. "What's an auditor? It's somebody who comes onto the battlefield after the battle of finished and bayonets the wounded. I kind of feel that the ombudsman is doing that a little bit with us."

Carter said he isn't certain anybody else in the same circumstances would not have approached the situation as had Haliburton County's council.

Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands, agreed. Given those circumstances, she said council did the best it could.

"And we'll move forward with it," Danielsen said.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A welcome surprise for 2024

Kiernan Shivji Martell was born at 12:00 a.m. on Jan. 1, 2024, making him the first baby born in Canada. His mother, Nadia, is from Haliburton, and currently resides in Halifax. /Photos submitted

from page 1

But on the evening of Dec. 31, as she was sitting on her couch and finalizing New Year's Eve plans with friends, everything changed.

"I stood up from the couch, and suddenly, my water broke," she said. "I kept thinking, no this isn't real yet."

The young couple planned on popping into the hospital, just to get checked out quickly before resuming their plans for the evening. "Jake asked if we should pack the car seat, and I laughed because I was sure it wasn't real, but once we got to the hospital, it became pretty real pretty fast."

Upon arrival, Shivji was admitted immediately to prepare for birth. At this time, it was about three hours before midnight, and everyone involved started looking at the clock.

"We all started to wonder, is he going to be a 2023 baby or a 2024 baby?" Shivji recalled.

She actively recalls being mindful of the timing throughout her labour, as the excitement continued to build.

After three hours of pushing, Keirnan Shivji Martell was born at exactly 12:00 a.m., on January 1, 2024. This made him the first known baby born this year in Canada.

"The doctors and the nurses were all pretty excited about that," said Shivji. "The one doctor said that he will be a good hockey player one day," she laughed.

And despite being born ahead of schedule, little Kiernan was a comfortable five pounds, 13 ounces, allowing Shivji and Martell to return home, and find their new routine as a family of three.

Shivji noted that her mom, Rosemary, was able to change tickets to an earlier flight than the one planned for the end of the month, and has been out with the couple through these early stages. She is also grateful for the immense support of her friends and work colleagues, who have risen to the occasion with the early arrival, and provided helping hands every step of the way.

Now, as the buzz of the first baby settles, Shivji looks forward to leaning into her new role as mother in every capacity. "It's just been so awesome," she reflected. "It's still so surreal that he's here, and that he's ours."

Rosemary Shivji of Haliburton welcomes her grandson, Kiernan, shortly after his birth.

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Saturday, January 27th
9:00AM-4:00PM
Pinestone Resort, Haliburton
Keynote Speakers
Hereditary Chief Randy Chipps, Dr. Pat Armstrong, Dr. John Lord, Sue Lantz and Danielle Turpin
Agenda:
Registration/Service Provider Displays
Emcee Heather Reid (HCDC): Welcome
Traditional Indigenous Blessing for the Conference
Keynote Presentation: Indigenous Perspectives in Elder Care with Randy Chipps
Keynote Presentation: "Putting Life into Years" with Dr. Pat Armstrong
LTC Advocacy for Change in Haliburton County HHHS Hyland Crest/Pat Bradley
Lunch (provided) and Service Provider Displays
Keynote Panel: Time for Transformation
Expanding community based options for healthy aging in Haliburton County A discussion with John Lord, Sue Lantz and Danielle Turpin
Intergenerational Perspective: The creativity and involvement of our local youth - Rotaract/Interact
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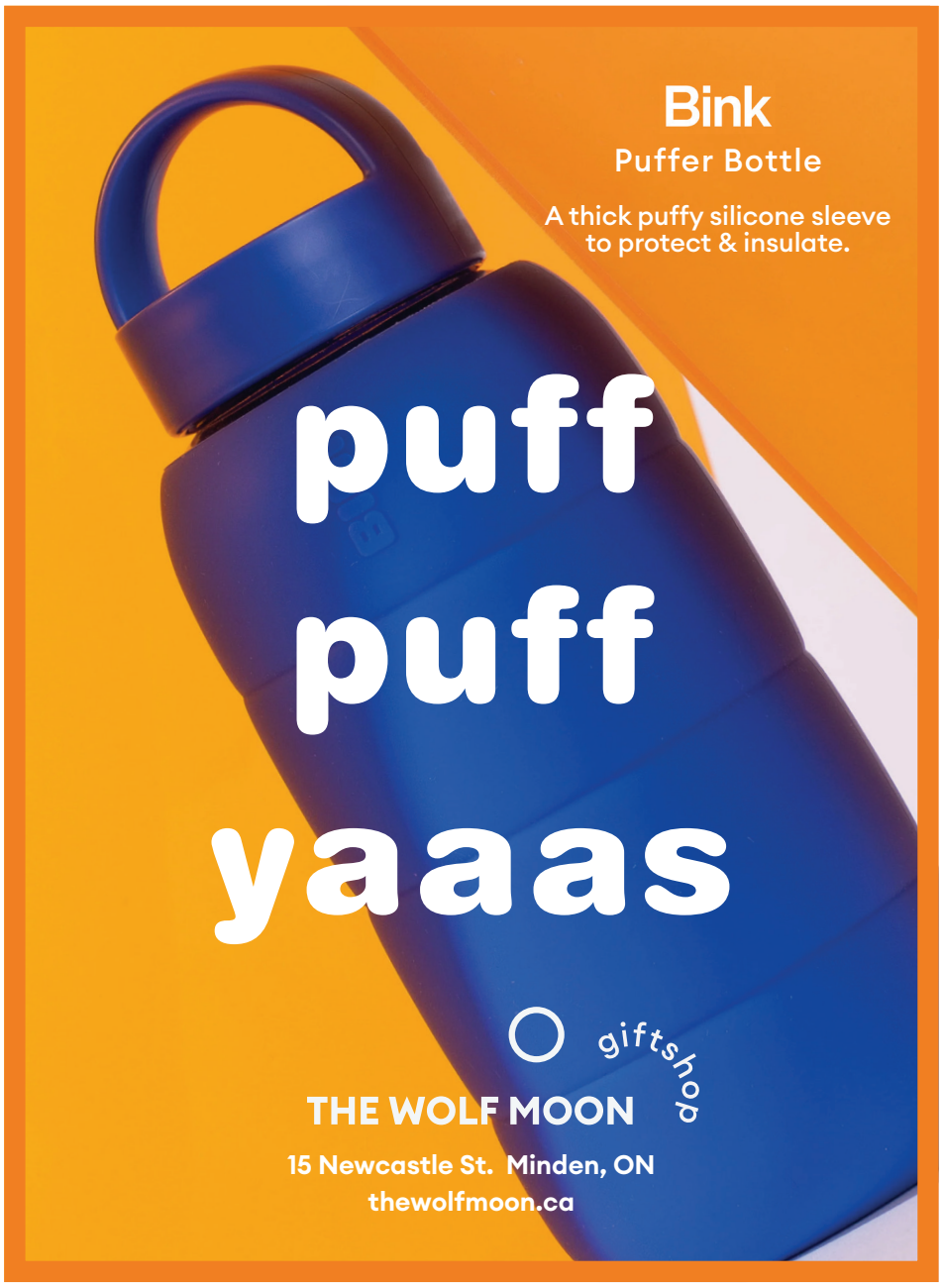
Huskies versus Muskies

Huskies forward Alex Bradshaw gets the puck past a Lindsay Muskies player at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena on Saturday, Jan. 6. The Huskies won the game 4-1. /TIM YANO Special to the *Echo*

Adam Smeeton, #15, goes for the puck.

The team celebrates #75 Patrick Saini's goal, the Huskies' final goal of the game.

Highland Storm players show the crowd their skills during a game between periods.



points of view

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History in the making

THE ONLY thing we can count on in life is change.

Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher, wrote that 2,524 years ago.

Looking at the history of Earth, and actually the whole universe, it's been true since the beginning of everything we know.

Turning the pages of every single paper from 2023 in the past couple of weeks to piece together our Year in Review has certainly solidified the ancient statement.

Our one constant is change.

Looking at the big picture, 2023 was only one out of the Echo's 139 year history.

That scale's a little smaller than a few billion years if we're comparing it to the history of the universe, of course.

vivian collings

Editorial

How much could really change in just one year?

Emily Stonehouse, the Times editor and I, had worried that we wouldn't have enough content from January, February, and March last year.

Those are typically always the slowest news months of any year.

We assumed there wouldn't be many significant stories to highlight from that time.

While looking back, though, we found that all the stories, big or small, are all important pieces in making up our little universe here.

And the people, places, and organizations of each story have changed in that one little year, too, for better and for worse.

If we wrote all those stories again today, there isn't a single one that would be the same.

Last January, the Wellness Hub opened it's doors for the first time.

At the time, my first time learning about it was in Emily's article.

Now, they have a thriving, successful business. They've grown so much that classes are waitlisted, and the parking lot is full at any given time of the day.

Around the same time, the long-awaited restaurant across from the town docks, Hook, Line & Sinker, opened for business.

It's become a hot spot in Haliburton for all generations.

The ending of the Haliburton Anglican Church's Pancake Tuesday dinner last February was the first of many other traditions to end - a signal of changing times and an absence of a new generation of volunteers.

The Huskies dominated their final game before playoffs in March.

The team now has an almost entirely new roster and has found their groove once again this year.

The town also saw the first renditions of a new playground for Head Lake Park in March.

The long-awaited replacement equipment felt like it couldn't come soon enough.

Looking out from my office window as I write this, families are enjoying the real-life version of those computer drawings.

Everything in our small county is changing by the day, little by little, whether we hope for it or not.

Seeing how far we've come in the past year gives hope for all the ones to come after.

And that's good. It means we're moving forward. We're learning and growing as a community.

"Those who don't study history are doomed to repeat it," so here's to the first part of the 2023 Year in Review.

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A Barred Owl overlooks its surroundings. by Tammy Nash

Welcome to 2024, don'tcha know

DEAR READER,

Well, here we are with another brand spanking new 365 days ahead of us and the opportunity to be the best or worst of who we can be. Oh yes, we do have a choice, don'tcha know.

Why, ol' Maybelle has seen right here in Lake WhaddayathinkImean the best and worst of how folks treat one another. Some folks live straight from their hearts. They give and spread goodwill and kindness, thoughtfulness and caring, and show empathy for other folks every single day. Oh, that's a big one. My personal favourite. Empathy. Caring about how somebody else feels, putting yourself in their shoes and doing your best to be thoughtful about how you treat them. As the beloved poet, Maya Angelou, said: "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel."

Maybelle's

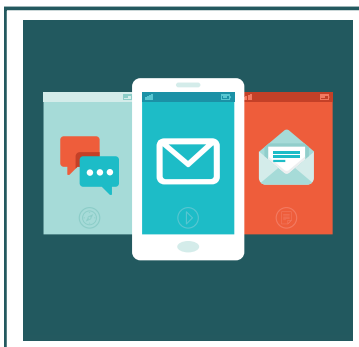
Fireside stories

So, my question is: How do you want to make people feel this year? How did you do last year? Were you on Santa's Naughty or Nice list? I'm not being flip. We really do have an opportunity to set good intentions to be more thoughtful toward other folks, don'tcha know. Afterall, what goes around comes around. Give love, and you'll get love. Treat others in a mean-spirited way and it will come back and bite you, you know where.

It all seems so simple to ol' Maybelle, don'tcha know. And I know my good friends, Twindle Mumbly, Vilma Yuccch, Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom, Beanpole Starkman and Sybil Beaucannon Hughes feel the same way. It feels so good to make people smile. And it takes so little to make that happen.

So, welcome to 2024 and the beautiful opportunity to be the best you can be by simply living from a place of love.

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You," 21 of Maybelle's best short stories is now available at www.amazon.com.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
vivian@haliburtonpress.com

points of view

Farm life

steve galea

Looncon Tales

LIKE A lot of people, Jenn and I recently agreed to make an effort to lead a more simple life and to get back to the land in 2024. Her exact words were, "Why not? You already have the simple part down anyhow."

That's why, for Christmas, I bought her a hydroponic unit so that we can grow lettuce, parsley, basil and thyme.

The unit, which is about one foot long and six inches deep lives on our kitchen counter and is now known in our house as "the farm" – although admittedly, this has not yet caught on with Jenn.

If you think about it though, this is a perfect farm. It grows plants in a self-contained environment that provides light, heat, water, soil, and nutrients – plus, there is no rooster.

And it works too. In the two weeks since we've set it up, our lettuce crop is almost two inches high, and our parsley and basil are also coming along. In fact, if all goes right, I think they will be ready for the Farmer's Market by summer.

Having said that, when I look at our back 40, as I sometimes refer to it, I believe we could increase our yield substantially. And I told Jenn as much the other day. Heck, I even laid out a plan, based on my limited experience and a quick perusal of an old Farmer's Almanac.

After hearing me out, she said, "No. You're not getting a straw hat, overalls, and rubber boots."

Jenn is a lovely person, but she is resistant to change. Of course, I expected no less. She is never up at the crack of dawn like I am. Nor does she worry about whether we'll experience a draught, or frost in the kitchen. Likewise, I never see her concerned about the very real possibility that an errant deer sneaks into the house and eats into our profits.

She just thinks all this will take care of itself.

And maybe it will. But would it hurt to get a small tractor, just in case? The answer is, apparently, yes – especially after she heard my plan about also getting a manure spreader attachment.

Of course, she will probably regret that stance once the lettuce is ready to harvest. We have no place to house migrant pickers.

Admittedly, I'm dreaming a bit big right now. But it's only because I can see the day where our lettuce fields stretch from one end of the kitchen counter to the other.

I also envision getting up before the rooster crows, and surveying all I see. And then, when I'm gone, passing the farm down to my kids, so long as they have enough electrical receptacles to manage it.

Call me crazy, but every time I see a bumper sticker that says "#$@! Trudeau!" I recall a simpler time when there used to be ones that said, "If you ate today, thank a farmer."

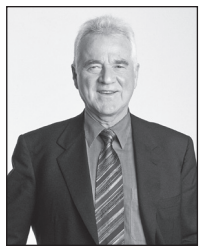
But right now – lack of overalls, straw hat, and rubber boots notwithstanding – there's still work to do. Our three lettuce pods are doing well. The basil pod is up and so too is the parsley. But our thyme is still dormant.

If that crop fails, we will have to go to the bank with straw hat in hand, to get the funds to buy some from the grocery store.

Will we succeed? Nothing is guaranteed when you farm. So, I guess thyme will tell.

The Principles of an Economic Charter of Rights

Are Canadian living standards deteriorating?



frank stronach

Principles

DECLINING LIFE expectancy for Canadians. Plunging math scores among Canada's high school students. Fewer doctors. And longer wait times for emergency care.

These were some of the headlines from the past week or so. They're warning signals – just a few in a long and growing list – about our country's declining living standards.

A Statistics Canada report that didn't receive much attention showed that life expectancy for Canadians has dropped for the third straight year. In countries with high living standards, life expectancy should be rising, not falling.

The second troubling headline related to the health and well-being of Canadians came from a report published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal. The report showed Canada was lagging behind a number of other OECD countries in various key health indicators. According to the report, Canada was one of the worst countries in the category of total number of physicians per resident and was at the very bottom when it came to receiving timely treatment in emergency care or access to a medical specialist.

But that's what happens when the economy no longer functions properly – there's less and less money for social programs like health, and fewer dollars to look after the most vulnerable and fragile in our society.

And while health is one of the most important indicators regarding a country's quality of life and overall living standards, so too is education.

An OECD report published last week revealed that the math scores of Canadian high school students continue to fall year after year. In fact, according to the report, they've been dropping for almost 20 years now.

That can't be good in an economy that is increasingly reliant on technology and science, two fields where math skills are critical.

The other worrisome headline from last week was related to a Statistics Canada report showing that Canada's economy is shrinking, household spending is flat, and exports are declining.

When added together, all of these troubling symptoms about the state of our healthcare, education system and economy begin to paint a picture of slow and steady decline.

It's what happens when we import more and export less, when we stop manufacturing products here in Canada, and when a growing percentage of the wealth we do create gets eaten up by our bureaucracy and interest payments on the national debt.

A country that no longer focuses on the creation of wealth will invariably see a decline in its living standards and the unraveling of its economic fabric.

So how do we go about restoring our living standards, which used to be among the highest in the world?

I believe the best way to do so is through the establishment of an Economic Charter of Rights and Responsibilities – a charter that would make our tax system simpler and fairer, boost the incomes of millions of Canadians through profit sharing, unshackle small business to create millions of new jobs, and put the brakes on out-of-control government spending while slashing red tape.

An economic charter would also improve the nutrition of Canadian children and give young Canadians the opportunity to learn technical trades and pursue good-paying careers.

Most of all, an economic charter of rights would help us restore the high living standards that made Canada one of the most desirable countries in the world.

To learn more about the economic charter and how it could generate economic growth and prosperity, email me at info@economiccharter.ca. Or to learn more about the economic charter, visit: www.economiccharter.ca.

Author Bio

Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame.

fstronachlpc@gmail.com

Congratulations to ARC

Executive direction of Abbey Retreat Centre, Barb Smith-Morrison, was delighted to receive Laurie Scott's new fund on December 15th, 2023. This Ontario Trillium Foundation grant of $103,200 will supply new improvements including a new heat unit. This assists survivors, families, and people with cancer in living safely in a comfortable and secure space. Congratulations to Barb for managing this centre so well.

Longer ago, Nov. 18 in fact, more congratulations went to Bernie Nicholls when his astounding record goals and points with the Kingston Canadians (now Frontenacs) was celebrated. Proud as we all are of you our local athlete, equally proud to see Bernie's junior flag jersey was Verne Walters who billeted Bernie and let him become part of a welcoming family for his Kingston hockey years. His biography can be traced in "From Flood Lights to Bright Lights".

The *Echo* and Canoe FM have kept us apprised of the various Christmas services around this time of happy celebration. I love this season where people drop-in unexpectedly, or on short notice, some of which have been: Darren Lum, Carl and Helen Dixon, Betty Berry and Mae Newcomb (oh those goodies!), Margaret Milne, Nora (Morrison) Lay, Larry Giles (more goodies, Margaret).

We can rest assured that Liz Danielson is the right choice for warden given that she has the confidence of mayors already in office: Murray Fearrey and Dave Burton who applaud the work Liz Danielsen has already done as listener to everyone's concerns and find agreeable compromise to issues which concern us all.

Submitted by Eleanor Coooper

pic *of the* past

John Morrison, left, and his brother Lawrence Morrison stand together at John's home on Nila Road in West Guilford in 1925. The photo was taken a few doors down from where Perry, John's son, and his wife Kay Morrison live now. /Photo submitted by Perry Morrison

HSF
Live Theatre!
2024
Highlands Summer Festival
2024 Audition Invitation
The Highlands Summer Festival is holding auditions for the following 2024 productions:
• The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (a musical)
• The Miracle Worker
• The Birds & the Bees
Saturday, January 27, from 10 a.m.
Sunday, January 28, from 12:30 p.m.
at St. George's Anglican Church
617 Mountain Street, Haliburton
Character descriptions and other important details, including how to register, can be found in the audition package, linked from the HSF home page at www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca

A conversation about aging

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

It's no secret that Haliburton County has an aging demographic.

With over 35 percent of the population falling within the 65 and up age range, the concerns around aging safely, sustainably, and comfortably are a hot topic for the county as a whole.

That's why the Rethink Policy Change Group paired up with the Haliburton Highlands Long Term Care Coalition to form what is now known as Aging Together as Community (ATAC); an organization dedicated to fueling the fires of these holistic conversations, and coming up with resolute shifts in standard mindsets and protocols.

Bonnie Roe, a spokesperson and organizer behind the ATAC group, has been working diligently on bringing these conversations forward. Her efforts over the past year - with everything from community events to question and answer periods - have brought the topic of aging to the forefront of people's minds, and she hopes that these initiatives will culminate into one major event: the Inspiring Creativity and Empowering Change Conference, slated for Jan. 27.

"We wanted to host an event that would bring people of all ages together," she said to the *Echo*, "and that's always been our goal; to be an intergenerational event."

The full-day conference, hosted at the Pinestone Resort, will run from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., and will include lunch and beverages throughout the day.

While the event itself will organically spark dialogue around aging in the community, Roe noted that the agenda also includes a full roster of talented keynote speakers, who will bring a variety of experience, knowledge, and insight surrounding the topic of aging.

"These speakers are the most renowned in their fields," said Roe. They include Hereditary Chief Randy Chipps, an Elder of the North West Coast and Coast Salish First Nations, from a long line of Hereditary Chiefs and Healers, Dr. Pat Armstrong of York University who specializes in long term care and women's health, Dr. John Lord, a published author and leader with Seniors for Social Action Ontario, Sue Lantz, a published author and managing director of Collaborative Aging, and Danielle Turpin, a PSW and president of the Homecare Workers Cooperative, and the executive director of the Cooperative Care Alliance. "It's going to be a really well-rounded day," said Roe.

The speakers will be broken into a series of keynote presentations and panels, with representation from local service providers as well, including the Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

Roe noted that while the focus of this event is sustainably aging, it's not an event necessarily catered to those who fall exclusively within the senior bracket. All ages are welcome, and to round off the full-day of conversations and questions, ATAC has invited the local Rotaract and Interact clubs to discuss how they fit into the complexities of residing in a senior-centric community. The two organizations are designed for high school kids and those aged 20 and up to give back to the community, and get involved with local initiatives and fundraisers. By giving the youth-based organizations a seat at the table, ATAC hopes to blur the lines of aging demographics, and spark conversations between multigenerational initiatives and prerogatives.

"We are really seeing this conference as a catalyst for more movement," said Roe, noting that the final event of the day is an open space, where all speakers and attendees can sit down, and discuss potential solutions for comfortably aging in Haliburton County, as well as what they all learned throughout the day. "We have had a lot of these discussions," said Roe, "so now it's really about where to go next."

The deadline for registration is Jan. 13, and can be done by visiting the Aging Together as Community event page on Facebook, or emailing agingtogetherhc@gmail.com.

HSF presents Flannel Frolic

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

Highlands Summer Festival has stitched together the perfect blanket to warm up a cold January night: their first ever Flannel Frolic.

Grab your favourite flannel, your partner, and some friends on Friday, Jan. 19 for a fundraiser dance, dinner, and auction to support HSF's upcoming season.

Taking place at the Haliburton Legion, the night will feature live music by local band Adverse Conditions and a delicious homemade dinner.

"It's going to be such a fun party," said HSF board member Sean Pennylegion. "It's an opportunity for us to connect with the community outside of the summer season."

The fundraiser was created by Pennylegion and fellow board member Sue Vorvis as a casual way to get the community together after some difficult seasons for the theatre due to COVID-19 health measures.

"We were dark for two seasons during COVID, and we have monthly expenses, and like every other not-for-profit organization, the pandemic was difficult," Pennylegion said. "We have a great season coming up, and the extra support from this fundraiser will go towards that."

Adverse Conditions was chosen to perform because of their outstanding performances at other venues in 2023.

"They're a newer band and it's made up of 11 incredible local musicians," Pennylegion said. "They have a killer horn section and amazing vocalists. We're so excited to have them be part of the night."

If the food, entertainment, and plaid attire weren't enough, the event is also hosting the famous "Jack Brezina Toonie Auction" during intermission.

"It's fast and great fun with Jack's commentary and people yelling out numbers all over the place," Pennylegion laughed.

The event will also feature a silent auction and 50/50 draw.

"We have a full staff of kitchen volunteers, and then a number of volunteers will be making everything happen during the evening," Pennylegion said.

This year, HSF is presenting five shows: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Miracle Worker, The Birds and the Bees, The Good Lovelies, and Leisa Way's Opry Gold.

"We're very fortunate to have live theatre in our community. We put on such great shows," Pennylegion said.

Tickets are $90 for a couple and $50 for a single and can be purchased at tickets.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca/product/flannel-frolic or by calling 705-457-9933.

January 2023 Year in Review

Wellness Hub opens

Sarah Comer and Shay Hutchings opened the doors to the Wellness Hub on Industrial Park Road in Haliburton, housing multiple wellness-related businesses.

HHHS explores feasibility of a local CT scan machine

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) had begun to explore whether a CT scan machine can be brought to Haliburton County to help improve patient outcomes and deliver important healthcare services closer to home.

The study was to help determine if it is possible to proceed with a CT scanner sooner, rather than wait for the Master Planning process to be completed.

Community remembers Don Cameron

Canoe FM founding father, Don Cameron, passed away peacefully on Jan. 17 at the age 88.

"If it wasn't for Don Cameron, there would be no Canoe FM," said Dave Allen, the sales specialist at the station.

In 2002, a hyper-local radio station in the Haliburton Highlands was nothing more than a dream. "There were a lot of naysayers," said Greg Roe, host of It's Only Rock and Roll on Canoe FM. "It took a long time for us to be accepted in this community."

Despite the red-tape and backlash from the town, three strong-minded mavericks powered through to follow the dream; Dave Sovereign, Jack Hewitt, and Don Cameron. "It was really the perfect combination," recalled Roe. "Dave taught broadcasting for years, Jack was the business guy, and Don, well, Don, was the hands-on, 'let's do it' kind of guy."

Hook, Line & Sinker opens for business

Hook, Line & Sinker opened for business on Jan. 25, and the Haliburton community's overwhelming excitement far exceeded the expectations of owners Taylor Pridham and Veronica VanLeeuwen.

After only four full days of being open, the new restaurant closed for one extra day on Sunday, Jan. 29 to have time to restock.

"It's a good problem to have," laughed Pridham. "We weren't anticipating the amount of support and how long people have been waiting to come in the door."

The newly-renovated spot on Highland Street already proved to be a central space in the community that encourages connection.

A dancer from Indigenous dance group, Odawa Wiingushk, performs at Razzamataz at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on Sunday, Jan. 15, 2023. Funded by Ontario Presents, the performance "aimed at shining a spotlight on under-served artists who are often made invisible by barriers such as race, language, and sexual orientation and in this case, a colonial legacy," through an immersive experience for children, said Nicole Stewart, chair of Razzamataz. /ADAM FRISK

Sarah Comer and Shay Hutchings opened their business, the Wellness Hub, on Industrial Park Road in January of 2023 in Haliburton. /DANIELLE HICKS

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Grade 12 students perform *We Go Together* during their final production of *Grease* on Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. The school's Grade 11 and 12 students put on four performances of the musical from Jan. 17 to Jan. 19. /VIVIAN COLLINGS

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February 2023 Year in Review

Erika Hoare, from left, Olivia Gruppe, Violet Humphries, and Ella Gervais competed in a short course relay at the COSSA Nordic skiing championships on Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023 where all HHSS competitors qualified for the OFSAA Nordic Championships. /KAREN GERVAIS

Ukrainian dancers Jenn Doroniuk and Paul Doroniuk perform a traditional dance at Kolomeijka for Ukraine, a celebration of Ukrainian music, food and dance at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 in Haliburton on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023. Guests were treated to a presentation of traditional Ukrainian dance and food in an effort to raise money for Cobblestone Freeway Foundation, an Edmonton-based not-for-profit supporting Ukraine and its culture. /ADAM FRISK

Schell retires from BIA

For more than 20 years, Luke Schell has been a fixture in the downtown of Haliburton Village, and not just as the business owner of a specialty photo and framing shop.

For almost the same length of time he owned his business, Schell was a volunteer on the executive of the Haliburton Business Improvement Area (BIA).

However, Schell embarked on a new chapter, that being retirement, which also brought an end his involvement with the BIA, which includes more then 15 years serving as chair of the executive.

David Zilstra took on the position.

'Pancake Tuesday' dinner comes to an end

Members of St. George's Anglican Church made the tough decision to end an almost-century-old tradition in Haliburton.

The Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner had brought together generations of Haliburtonians with lively music, delicious flapjacks, and candid camaraderie for 84 years.

"This would've been our 85th, and I feel sad, but we can't do it anymore, so we just have to bite the bullet and do something different," said Shrove Tuesday organizer Louise Sisson.

With a smaller in-person congregation since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and concerns about a low turnout due to caution around the spread of illness, they weren't able to muster up enough volunteers.

County raises tax levy 2.79%

The upper tier council approved a spending plan during its regular public meeting Feb. 22 that raised the tax levy over last year by 2.79 per cent.

Algonquin Highlands will kick in $4.3 million, Dysart et al. will be billed $8.3 million, while Highlands East and Minden Hills will contribute $3.1 million and $5.7 million respectively.

Council cut $275,000 from the affordable housing reserve budget. Additionally, $105,000 was removed from the shoreline bylaw budget.

Council removed a $10,000 Rail Trail transfer to reserve for future capital. Also removed was $50,000 from Community Transportation project funding.

Council approved a decrease of $20,000 for economic development projects.

Council removed $50,000 from the budget that would have gone toward a transportation master plan.

Also among the omissions was a $34,325 housing transfer to reserve for future capital needs of existing units.

Council removed $46,500 for climate change initiatives.

New business, Snaffle and Mane, opens

Gillian Taylor moved her six-year-old business, Snaffle and Mane, to its very first storefront in Unit 5 of 83 Maple Avenue following the move of Mixtape Vintage to Highland Street just before Valentine's Day.

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February 2023 Year in Review

Haliburton - Kawartha Lakes - Brock MPP Laurie Scott cuts the ribbon at the grand opening of the outdoor skating rink in Harcourt on Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023. The event featured skating with members of the Haliburton County Huskies, kids skating and hockey skills, and s'mores. /TIM YANO

Organizers and volunteers welcome carnival-goers at Abbey Gardens' Cupid's Carnival on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023. The annual celebration featured ice skating, sledding, and festive snacks and drinks. /ADAM FRISK

Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve hosted plenty of snowmobiles for its 32nd annual Charity Poker Run on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023. The day-long event allowed for visitors to ride the trails on the Haliburton Forest property with stops for refreshments and to collect tokens along the way. At the end of the day, tokens were handed in for riders to draw a poker hand. The prize for best hand was a brand new snowmobile. All proceeds collected went towards the Haliburton Figherfighters Association. /TIM YANO

HHSS competitors hug Jordanna Jennings after she wins her match at the wrestling meet held at HHSS on Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023. The school hosted over 140 athletes from 15 Central Ontario Secondary School Association (COSSA) schools and the HHSS team will head to the COSSA Wrestling Championships held at Bayside Secondary School in Quinte West on Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023. /VIVIAN COLLINGS

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March 2023 Year in Review

FoodCycler program introduced to county

The County of Haliburton began running a pilot FoodCycler program in an attempt to mitigate household waste across the municipalities.

FoodCyclers are about the size of a bread maker, and can fit on the average kitchen countertop. The county offered two slightly different sizes; one for a family of one to two, and another that would be used more effectively as a family of three or more. The processor is able to break down the majority of food scraps, resulting in a volume reduction of over 90 per cent.

The previously wet and smelly food is transformed into dry, sterile, and odorless fertilizer that can be saved and used in gardens and plants.

The units typically market at $500 for the smaller size, and $800 for the larger one, county subsidized a chunk of the cost. They have also partnered with Food Cycle Canada to offset the price point further based on grants the organization has received. The bottom line for the units will be $100 for the small size and $200 for the larger one. Once the trial period is done, participants in the study were able to keep the units for future usage.

Huskies win final game before playoffs

The Haliburton County Huskies finished strong in their final game of the regular season before playoffs against the North York Rangers, beating the team 6-3.

The Huskies moved on to playoff games sitting in third place after winning 36 of 54 games in the Ontario Junior Hockey League south/east division.

Poquito Loco finds a new home

Castle Antiques opened again after closing for a week of renovations to accommodate a new permanent addition; Mexican restaurant Poquito Loco in March.

Ann Meher, left, smiles while performing the adult tap group's routine to Shania Twain's *Man I Feel Like a Woman* at Skyline Dance Studio on Monday, Mar. 20, 2023. /VIVIAN COLLINGS

After four months of sharing the space on Friday nights for Tacos and Tunes, an event held at Castle Antiques featuring food from Poquito Loco and music by the Ya Babys, Claudette Pitre, co-owner of Poquito Loco and Anna Lowes, owner of Castle Antiques, discovered they wanted the partnership to be a permanent fixture.

New Head Lake Park playground announced

The Head Lake Park fundraising committee announced the park was set to have a 9,000 square foot, accessible playground later in the year.

The park was designed, all major pieces were ordered, and the fundraising committee has been able to secure over $500,000 in grants and donations, which put them well on their way to their $600,000 goal.

At that point, $300,000 was granted from the Municipality of Dysart's council, $150,000 came from an Ontario Trillium Accessibility Grant, and $50,000 was being donated by the Rotary Club of Haliburton.

County adopts shoreline bylaw

Haliburton County council officially adopted the new rules to the Shoreline Preservation Bylaw March 22 during its regular meeting.

The new bylaw applied to Minden Hills, Algonquin Highlands, and Highlands East with Dysart et al. refusing to cede jurisdiction of its shoreline to county authority.

The Shoreline Tree Preservation Bylaw continued for Dysart.

Marta Juszczak climbs the ice wall during a Yours Outdoors ice climb on Sunday, Mar. 12, 2023. Instructor and guide Lorne Foisy took a group of brave souls out into the Highlands to get their feet wet in all things ice climbing. /ADAM FRISK

The Head Lake Park fundraising committee launched their fundraiser for the new park in March of 2023 and shared this rendering of the proposed park.

Haliburton County Huskies players celebrate after their third goal by #9 Lucas Stevenson with assists by #8 Nicholas Dowling and #7 Sam Solarino during their final game of the regular season against the North York Rangers on Saturday, Mar. 4. /TIM YANO

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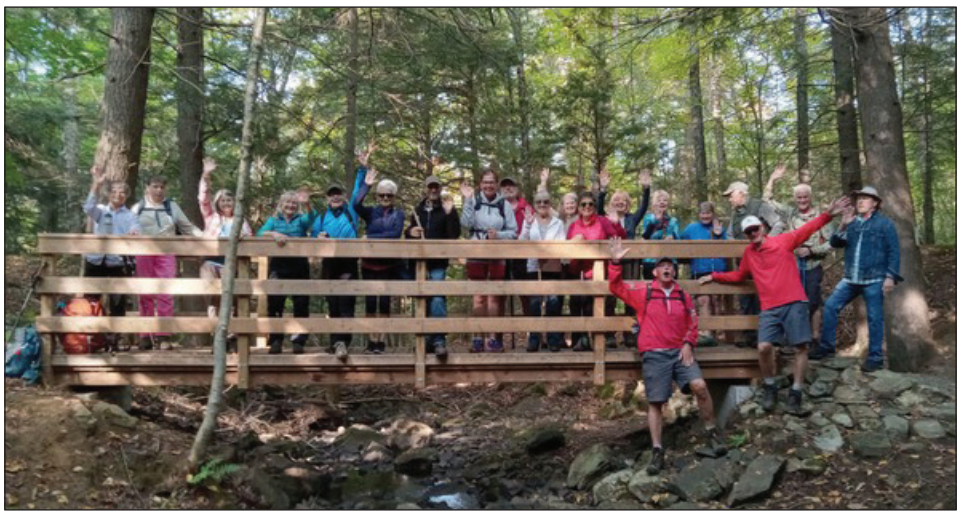
Harnessing the power of ‘co–operation’ for a stronger community

BRITNEY PAGLIUCA
Staff Reporter



Haliburton Highlands Trekkers, an initiative supported by the Haliburton County Community Co-operative, enjoy an autumn hike at Barnum Creek Nature Reserve/ Photo Submitted

The Haliburton County Community Co-operative (HCCC or the “Co-op”) has been operating since 1998, supporting initiatives throughout the county and facilitating connections that help with community development. Many of us recognize the Co-op as the core of local groups, like Haliburton Harvest, the Folk Society, and Minden Pride. However, you may be wondering about how the Co-op supports these groups and manages to be at the heart of so many diverse and inclusive parts of the community.

Jim Blake, president of HCCC, explains that the Co-op grew out of concerns about the closure of the Women’s Emergency House in the 1990s. A group of motivated community members came together to develop strategies for creating community wealth that can be reinvested into programs that could help meet residents’ needs.

Blake, who has been with the Co-op since its inception said, “It took time to develop the model we operate under today, but our mission has remained consistent”: to support the ideas and projects of active and caring members in pursuit of community development and well-being.

The Haliburton Co-operative is unique in its operational structure, according to Blake and Martin. “Other communities, like Kawartha Lakes, have developed their own Co-operatives based on our model,” Blake said.

Creating a community that people are proud to be a part of is made possible through this effective method of community action.

HCCC services

The HCCC operates on a model of community organization and governance. It consists of a board of directors who provide the infrastructure, resources, knowledge, and experience to community projects to help them achieve long-term success.

Each project that is taken on by the Co-op is provided with insurance, office support, and bookkeeping, and in return, pays the Co-op eight per cent of its gross revenue. “This creates a way for the projects to be sustainable and access resources that might otherwise be difficult to acquire,” HCCC vice president Barrie Martin said. “It also allows for groups to avoid the complicated process of becoming incorporated.”

HCCC board member, Pamala Marsales, added that as a member of the Co-op, each group is provided with the invaluable opportunity to receive guidance, mentorship, and knowledge from the board members, whose support and expertise can help projects reach new heights.

The Co-op also plays an important role in establishing significant connections among its different segments. “Everything belongs to and is shared amongst the Co-op collectively,” Blake said, “If one group needs to access resources for events, for example, we can contact other members of the Co-op so that they can be shared.” In this way, group members are not only pooling resources and minimizing spending but are also networking and expanding their connections within the community.

Creating new projects

New initiatives are formed when community members present their ideas to the Co-op. “It’s important that a new initiative starts with a group of committed individuals and a thorough plan,” Blake said. Each project should be self-sustaining and have its own management committee.

For example, Marsales, who is also the liaison for Haliburton Highland Trekkers, explains that the hiking, paddling, and snowshoeing group began as an informal snowshoeing group before it became a part of the Co-op. As the group grew, it found the need to secure insurance and a more formal structure, which they were able to access through the Co-op in 2011.

If the Co-op approves the project, the leaders will become members, and an HCCC board member will act as a liaison.

Before approving a new project, the Co-op also must consider whether it adheres to the Co-op’s mandate by contributing to the social, cultural, environmental, and economic well-being of Haliburton County. “Each group has their own mandate and membership,” Martin said, “but they still must fulfill the purpose of the Co-op.”

Currently, HCCC supports 18 initiatives throughout the county that contribute to its vibrance, inclusivity, and connectivity. They include community festivals, artistic projects, environmental initiatives, groups that focus on healthy living, and community research programs.

“Without the Co-op, many of these projects just wouldn’t exist,” Martin said. However, he also emphasized that the number of initiatives supported by the Co-op is evidence of Haliburton residents’ genuine concern and love for their community.

Giving back to our unique community

One of the things that Martin attributes to the Co-op’s success is the level of dedication and volunteerism of Haliburton residents. “Everything at the Co-op happens at a grassroots level,” he said. “It all comes from people in the community who have a desire to take action and contribute to making Haliburton a better place.”

Haliburton is unique in the sense that so many of its residents are committed to making it a more diverse and dynamic community. From farmers’ markets and art shows to parades and paddle groups. There really is a place for everyone here, and an opportunity to make new connections and meaningful contributions.

For Martin, the desire to give back to the community has grown out of his appreciation for Haliburton and all it has given him. Haliburton provides for us all and deserves our care in return.

The heart of this community touches every aspect of our lives. We all share the responsibility of shaping our home into a space we are proud of. For 25 years, HCCC, its board members, and volunteers have helped transform Haliburton into what we know today. Thanks to the Co-op, we can all participate in what takes place in our community and bring our ideas to life.

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Corporate Strategic Plan
Open Houses & Focus Group Sessions

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The Municipality is looking to gather robust input from the community and other key stakeholders to assist in the development of the plan. For further information or if you wish to participate in these stakeholder engagement activities, including focus group sessions or Public Open Houses, please visit the Highlands East website for further information: www.highlandeast.ca

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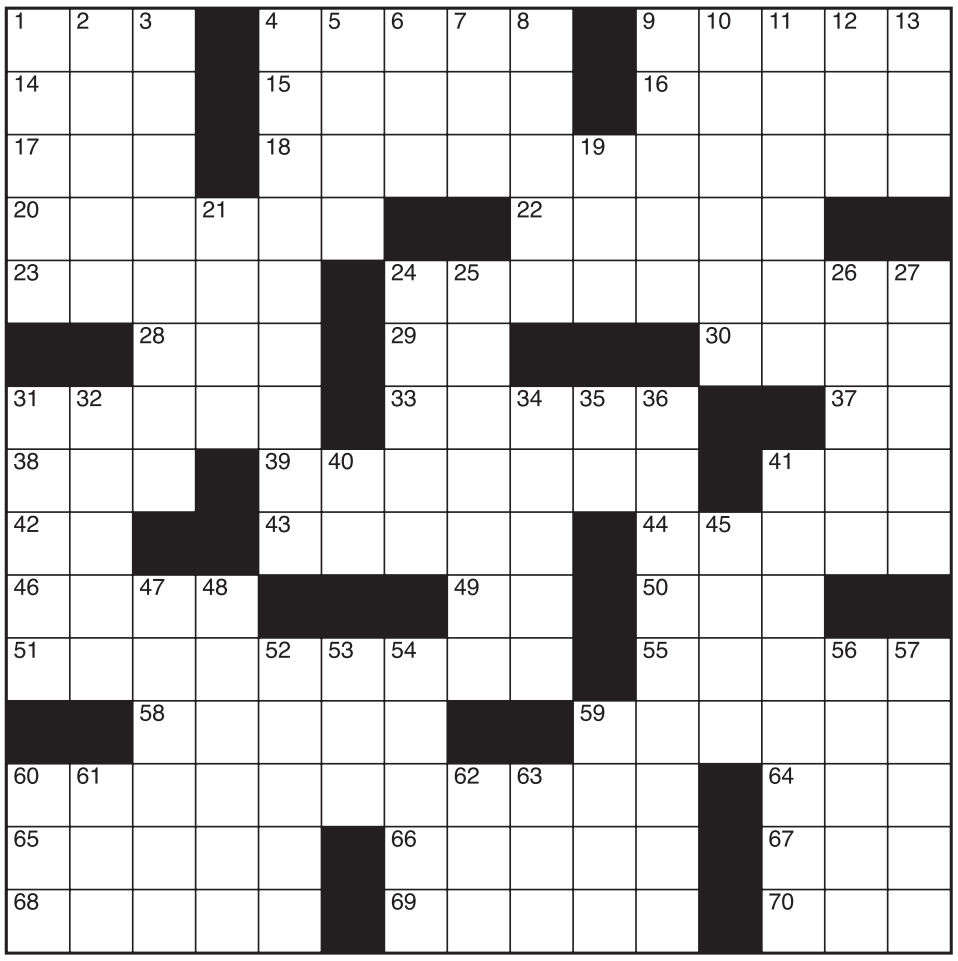

CLUES ACROSS
1. Defensive nuclear weapon
4. Moved back and forth
9. One-time coach of the Cowboys
14. Last letter
15. Cause to become less intense
16. Genus of tree bugs
17. Body art
18. Romance novelist
20. Be filled with love for
22. City
23. Make vivid
24. Horses
28. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
29. Atomic #18
30. Shortly
31. A type of prejudice
33. Whirls
37. Six
38. Old world, new
39. __ Hess, oil company
41. Talk
42. Not off
43. Begets
44. Cars need them
46. Computing architecture (abbr.)
49. Of I
50. Journalist, activist Wells
51. Takes apart
55. Lists
58. Positively charged electrode
59. Hard, colorless compound
60. Inflammation of the peritoneum
64. Trent Reznor's band
65. Simply dry fruit
66. "Ivanhoe" author
67. Google certification
68. French commune
69. Medieval circuit courts
70. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN
1. Indigenous people of Mexico
2. Dietary supplement
3. Having a particular sheen or luster
4. Views
5. Academic Bill of Rights
6. Automobile
7. When you anticipate arriving
8. Beef or chicken intestine
9. Conspiracy
10. Blood disorder
11. Long-time NBAer Shawn
12. Time zone
13. US, Latin America, Canada belong to
19. Upton Sinclair novel
21. What a cow does
24. Cavalry-sword
25. Ancient Greek war galley
26. Stars
27. Rebukes
31. Billion year periods
32. Some are in a bottle
34. Tears down
35. Lethal dose
36. Humorists
40. Midwestern US state (abbr.)
41. Frameworks
45. Rocker Billy
47. More thin
48. Dog
52. Habitual repetitions
53. State of fuss
54. Uneasy
56. Chemical compounds
57. More cognizant of reality
59. A place to build
60. Exclamation that denotes disgust
61. Supplement with difficulty
62. Very slick
63. Hill or rocky peak

Answers on page 17

This state-of-the-art dental chair,
made possible by generous community donations,
is Dedicated to the Memory of
Lisa Kerr
a Founder and the Heart and Soul of Volunteer Dental Outreach
May it serve as a reminder of Lisa's
Kindness, Compassion, and her Determination
to bring Healthy Smiles to Countless Lives in Haliburton County.
And may it be an inspiration to all who walk in her footsteps...
Board of Directors
Volunteer Dental Outreach for Haliburton County
– December 2023 –
Volunteer Dental Outreach
Because Everyone Deserves To Smile

Sandra Slauenwhite-Box from 100 Women Who Care and Dr. Bill Kerr stand with the plaque for one of two new dental chairs in the VDO office dedicated to the memory of Lisa Kerr and made possible by community donations given in her name.
/VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Volunteer Dental Outreach receives new equipment

The Volunteer Dental Outreach (VDO) for Haliburton County proudly announces the installation of two commemorative plaques at its Haliburton clinic, honouring contributors to its recent transformative revival.

The first plaque will be placed near a new state-of-the-art dental chair that pays tribute to the late Lisa Kerr, a VDO founder and board member. Purchased with $36,000 of memorial fund donations, the chair symbolizes Lisa's kindness and commitment to helping local residents in need achieve healthy smiles.

The second plaque recognizes the donation of a similar modern chair by Henry Schein Canada, the VDO's supplier. It showcases corporate responsibility in action and aligns with the charity's belief that everyone deserves access to quality dental care.

These chairs kickstarted an extensive renovation project at the clinic in the summer of 2023, which included the installation of cabinets donated by Dr. Kiran Gosel of 540 Dental, new flooring, and the purchase of two computers for operatories and an x-ray unit. A $5,800 donation by the local 100 Women Who Care group funded these technology upgrades. Volunteers completed all the work.

"Our clinic is now state of the art, providing a comfortable working environment for our dental volunteers," said Bill Kerr, volunteer dentist and founding board member.

Submitted

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTIFICATION DU PUBLIC

PROPOSED ROGERS 91 METER WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS GUYED TOWER INSTALLATION

The proposed installation is composed of a 91-meter guyed telecommunications tower, including the antennas, a lightning rod, and an obstruction light.

Location: Part Lots 11 & 12, Concession 7, Blueberry Trail
PIN: 391610117 ARN: 462402000096600

Objective: To improve wireless coverage to your community (along East Bay, as part of Drag Lake) and to meet rising demands for wireless services.

Details: An equipment shelter will also be installed at the base of the proposed tower and the entire site will be surrounded by a security fence with a locked gated access point.

The public is invited to provide written comments by end of business day on **February 11, 2024** to the contact information shown below. Please include a return address.

Tower Installation Project
Projet d'installation de communication sans fil
Reference: C8608 – Carroll Rd & Harburn Rd.
Rogers Communications Inc. - Contractor

Victoria McKay
16-225 Riddell St, Woodstock ON N4S 6N2
Email: j_mckay@rogers.com

ROGERS

EMPLACEMENT PROPOSÉ PAR ROGERS POUR L'IMPLANTATION D'UNE TOUR HAUBANÉ D'ENVIRON 91 MÈTRES DE HAUTEUR

Le site de télécommunication proposé sera composé d'une tour de type haubané d'une élévation hors-tout d'environ 91 mètres incluant les antennes, le balisage aérien et le parafoudre.

Lieu : Parties des lots 11 et 12, concession 7, Blueberry Trail

Objectif : Améliorer la couverture cellulaire dans votre secteur (le long de la baie Est, dans le cadre du lac Drag) et ainsi répondre à la demande sans cesse croissante pour les services sans fil.

Détails : Un cabinet d'équipements sera aussi aménagé à la base de la tour et l'ensemble du site sera ceinturé d'une clôture de sécurité et d'une entrée verrouillée.

Les citoyens sont invités à faire part de leurs commentaires, avant la fermeture des bureaux de Rogers le **11 février 2024**, à l'adresse indiquée (avec une adresse de retour).

Land Use Authority Contact/
Coordonnées de l'autorité d'utilisation du sol

For information only, a copy may be emailed to:
À titre informatif uniquement, une copie peut être envoyée par courriel à :

Jeff Iles, Director of Planning and Land Information
jiles@dysartetal.ca

Lightfoot aims to bring people together

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

As the medley of sleet and ice falls from the skies, a fire crackles as I dial Terra Lightfoot's phone number.

She's in Seattle at the time of the call; exploring hiking trails, and preparing for her upcoming shows. "This is a great time to chat," she said eagerly, as she picked up the phone.

Hailing originally from Waterdown, Ontario, Lightfoot went to attend McMaster University. The Juno-nominated musician called Hamilton home until the pandemic hit in early 2020. That's when she made the life-changing decision to move to the Haliburton Highlands. When asked if she was familiar with the area, Lightfoot laughed. "Absolutely, not at all," she said. "But we found the perfect property, and we couldn't be happier."

She made her debut in the county with a show at the Haliburton Legion last January, "and I kind of wanted to make that an annual thing," she said, in light of the success for the 2023 sold-out show to the local crowd. Lightfoot observed that the "winter blues" are all too real this time of year, so putting on a show where people can get up and dance has certain healing powers.

It was this mindset that sparked Lightfoot's newest album, Healing Power, which was released in October of 2023. "These are songs that were all written just within a few kilometers of the local legion," she said.

Her upcoming performance on Jan. 27 at the Haliburton Legion will feature songs from the new album, as well as a smattering of some classics that Lightfoot has performed around the world.

Presented by the Haliburton County Folk Society, the concert will feature Rob Radford on drums and vocals, Eli Abrams on bass, and of course, Lightfoot on guitar and vocals. Her guitar style has been compared to that of Van Morrison and John Fogerty, with her raspy vocals echoing the likes of Joan Jett or Janis Joplin. "We inhabit the rock and roll world, the folk world, and the blues world," Lightfoot mused, when asked about her style.

While the core of the concert is rock and roll, the heart lies in the desire Lightfoot has to bring people together. "I think that music has the distinct ability to heal," she said, "I've traveled around the world playing music, and the commonality I see is that everyone usually feels a little bit better after attending a concert. Music brings people together."

Tickets are available for the Lightfoot concert via the Haliburton Folk Society website, at www.haliburtonfolk.com. Tickets were sold out last year, so Lightfoot encourages folks to purchase in advance. The show opener is Christina Hutt, who plays country, blues, and soul music; which compliments Lightfoot's style nicely.

Lightfoot said the concert is for all ages, and she looks forward to bringing everyone together. "I've seen everyone from kids to 90-year-olds on the dance floor," she said. "Let's shake those winter blues away together."

Terra Lightfoot poses with her favourite guitar, named "Veronica", which she has been playing since she was 17. Lightfoot will be performing at the Haliburton Legion on Jan. 27. /photo submitted

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

R	S	S	■	S	E	R	Y	E	■	S	E	R	E	H
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O	P	M	A	C	■	D	E	C	A	P	■	M	B	A

Notice
Tariff of Fees

Notice is hereby provided that the Council of the County of Haliburton will be reviewing and considering amendments to the Tariff of Fees By-law-4145 at the Council Meeting to be held on January 24, 2024. Meeting to commence at 9:00 a.m.

Gary Dyke, CAO/County Clerk
11 Newcastle Street
P. O. Box 399
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0
Telephone: (705) 286-1333
or 1-866-886-8815
Fax: (705) 286-4829

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County of Haliburton
2024 Budget Deliberations

The County of Haliburton wishes to provide PUBLIC NOTICE that Haliburton County Council will be discussing the 2024 budget at their regular scheduled Council meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 2024. And that further 2024 budget discussions will occur thereafter at regularly scheduled Council meetings until the budget is approved.
The agendas for the above noted meeting dates can be viewed online at http://haliburton.civicweb.net

Gary Dyke, CAO/County Clerk
11 Newcastle Street
P.O. Box 399
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
Telephone: 705286-1333
or 1-866-886-8815
Fax: (705) 286-4829
E-mail: gdyke@haliburtoncounty.ca

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Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth & Parents
Haliburton County Youth Wellness Hub
John Howard Society of Kawartha Lakes & Haliburton
Monmouth Township Non Profit Housing Corp

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Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the complete job description.

Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and resume to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay,
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

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Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and resume by **3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 19, 2024** to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

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the arts council haliburton highlands

Annual General Meeting
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7 pm
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Haliburton Echo

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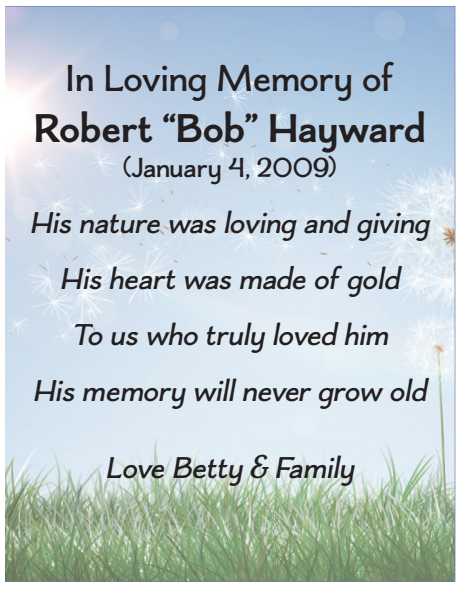
570 NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on behalf of Felice Mueller application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario for an Act to revive Qui Vive Island Club Inc. the Qui Vive Island Club Inc. Act 2023. The application may be considered by the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs. Any person who has an interest in the application and who wishes to make submissions, for or against the application, to the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs should notify, in writing, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Legislative Building, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1A2. Dated at Portland, Oregon, USA, this 23rd day of November, 2023.FELICE MUELLER

640 IN MEMORIAM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Love Betty & Family

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who passed away
December 15, 2022

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Glenn and Teresa
and Family
Mark and Diane and Family
And loving wife Wanda

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650 OBITUARIES

Community FUNERAL HOME

Dorothy Wilson (nee Playford)
(Resident of Haliburton)

Passed peacefully at Highland Wood on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at age 94. Wife of 70 years and best friend of the late Ken Wilson. Loving mother of Paul (Kim), Debbie (Ed McCallum), John (Marilou Mizzan) and Tracey. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Lauren (Chris), Adam (Ashley), Jeff (Jessica), Hilary (Ryan), Michael, Ryan (Joanne), Shawn (Alex), Lyndsey (Jonathan), Andrea (Melanie), Courtney (Monte), Brett (Lauren), Holly (Pablo), Andy, Carter and by her twenty-nine great grandchildren. Survived by sister Norma and brother Bill. Predeceased by siblings Stuart, Ethel, Muriel, Russ and Ken.

Dorothy was a long time resident of Haliburton. She was a stay-at-home mom until 1969, when she began working as a bookkeeper at Haliburton Lumber with her husband until they retired in 1989. She enjoyed being with her family, sewing, gardening and travelling with their many friends.

Private Celebration of Life

The family will hold a private Celebration of Dorothy's life. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

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FOR MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES OR ANY OTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT US

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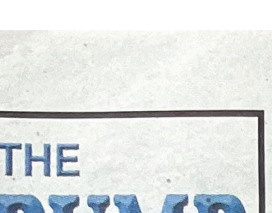

Victory

Red Hawks recapture title as St. Peter's Saints Classic A champions

26

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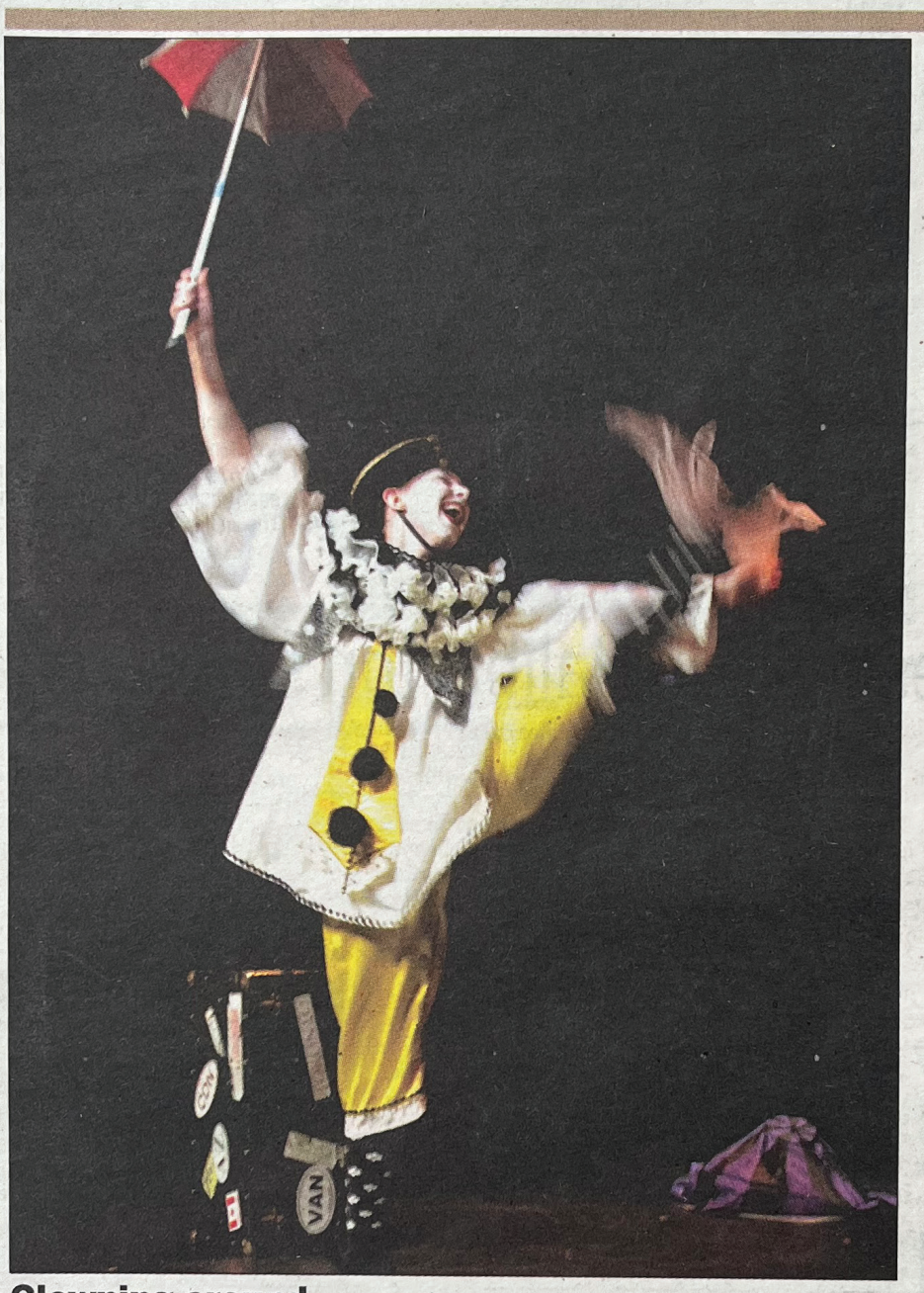

Clowning around

There was no shortage of fancy footwork during Circus Terrifico at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on Jan. 15. More on page 22. **Chad Ingram** Staff

County scours budget for savings

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

It's clear that county councillors want to keep the 2012 Haliburton County budget as austere as possible.

Councillors were discussing department draft budgets during a series of committee meetings on Jan. 11.

Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid wanted to know, if necessary, what kind of cuts could be made in the roads department budget.

The roads department has the largest budget of any county department.

"County council is in the process of rooting through the draft budgets of all the departments [and the whole picture] is not looking very positive, in my opinion," Reid said during the roads committee meeting. "It may be that we need to find more places to cut and I just want to get the committee's thoughts on the whole notion of road construction versus road maintenance. I understand our operating philosophy and I think it's a good one, but I'm wondering how sustainable that is, given the size of our county, the geographic breadth of the county and the fact the Liberal government did make a commitment to have a 10-year infrastructure plan."

That plan has yet to be announced.

"Personally, I think the priority should be on maintenance and not on construction," said Reid, who appreciated roads superintendent Doug Ray had already reduced his draft budget, but was adamant the county needed a contingency plan. "We may have to live with roads that are not as good as we want them."

The draft roads budget includes two major construc-

see WE page 16

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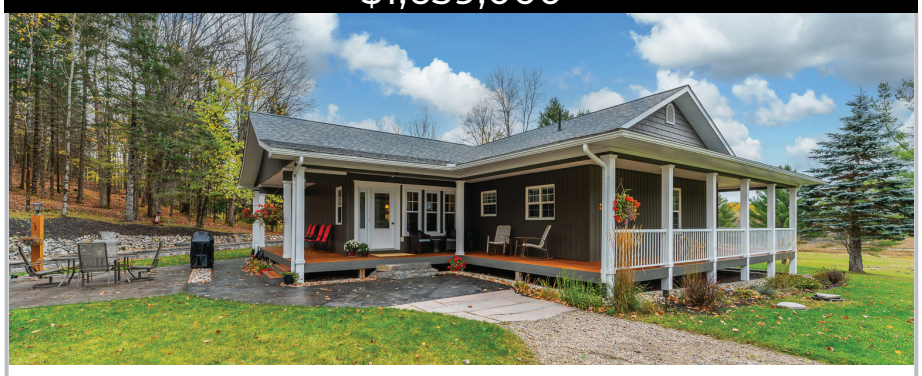

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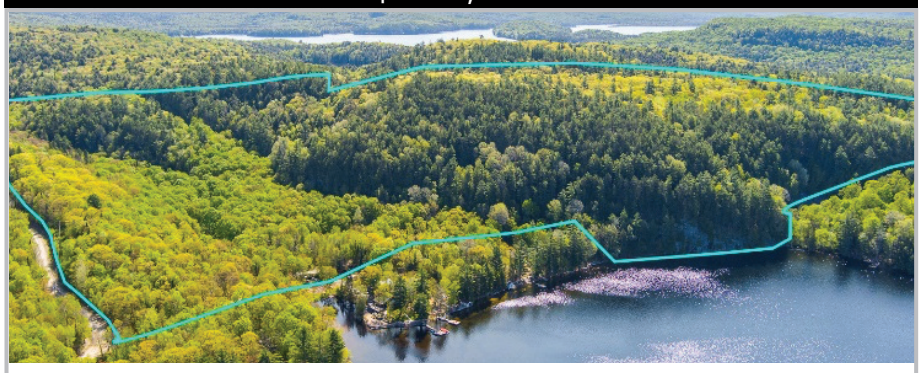

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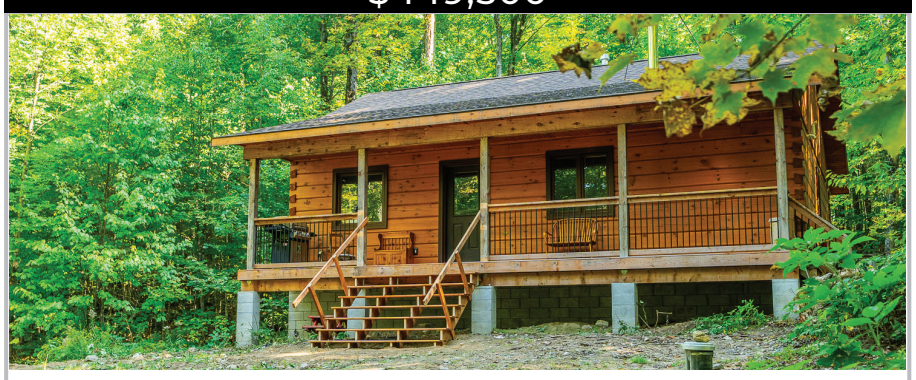

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